



The
Montessori School
of Englewood

**Executive Director Report
November 12, 2022**

Executive Director

Fundraising

- Board: \$4,893.90
- Corporate: \$25.50
- Grants: \$40,000.00
- Individual: \$2,199.58
- Total: \$47,118.65
- In-kind: Trotter Project
Donors Choose
St. Andrew's Philoptochos Society
University of Chicago
INCS-Two pallets of soap and a pallet of masks
Lawyers Lend a Hand to Youth

Website

- TMSOE has launched its new website at: www.tmsoe.org. The DONATE button is now live. We are still working on some minor edits but wanted to launch before the end of the year giving season.

Special Education Appeal

Based on CPS' analysis of TMSOE's programmatic considerations, they granted us the amount we requested-- \$203,678 in additional funding in SY2022-23. In advance, CPS will pay fifty percent of the granted appeal (\$101,839). They will make an additional \$50,920 payment in the coming weeks. Also, \$25,460 will be added to both the Q3 and Q4 Payments.

Special Projects

- TMSOE is partnering with Depave Chicago. Depave empowers disenfranchised communities to overcome social and environmental injustices and adapt to climate change through urban re-greening. The plan is for the summer of 2023 to turn the blacktop into a green space. TMSOE is working directly with Depave Chicago to complete permits and environmental testing.
- Uneq'ka, our art and music teacher, was accepted as a *1619* partner for fall/winter 2022-2023. She was selected from a group of strong applicants from across the country to join a small cohort of afterschool education professionals supporting students in multiple grade levels and cities. She will be working with the Pulitzer Center and will be engaging deeply with underreported stories and racial justice, connecting with incredible educators and journalists, crafting engaging classroom activities, and navigating these challenging times in the community with one another. Once she has completed the training, we will be integrating the program school-wide.
- Uneq'ka is working with "Together Chicago" to implement an afterschool program for 50 students to provide tutoring, art, and music. The grant also covers a dance program for K-8.
- WTTW interview- Our students participated in the "Folded Map Project," and Ms. Uneq'ka was interviewed by WTTW. It was a powerful experience for our children and we are so thankful for the opportunity to participate. Please take some time to watch the video below.

<https://youtu.be/Ghwk0DOKdic>

- Preview YouTube video Chicago Teachers Disrupting Segregation through Art — FIRSTHAND: Segregation



Enrollment and Attendance

- Enrollment: 332 Charter
- Enrollment Head Start 60
- Attendance: 90.00%

Head Start

- All TMSOE Head Start updates are located within the Parent Policy Committee Minutes:
- PPC 09.02 Minutes
- PPC 10.07 Minutes
- PPC 11/04 Minutes

Operations

Compliance

- 82 requirements have been met for CPS compliance
- TMSOE completed all mandated safety drills to date.
- TMSOE's STLS program currently consists of 39% of our student population. STLS is defined as Students in Temporary Living Situations. The main goal of STLS is to protect the rights of homeless students and ensure they receive all equitable services and programs. The STLS team has taken numerous training sessions this fall to understand the full scope of how to provide additional services. The STLS Coordinator completes touch base calls/meetings with families every other week and sets office hours from 8-830am and 2:30-3:15 daily. The biggest need we found for our STLS families has been the necessities, but also a focus on family therapy. We have provided numerous free resources to families and also through the Chicago Psychoanalytic Institute. We currently keep internal data on families that need additional check-ins.
- Attendance is a powerful indicator of student outcomes and feeling connected to the student community. To minimize truancy, TMSOE has developed a team to manage attendance. The attendance team is responsible for connecting with families daily, sending attendance letters home, and scheduling meetings to discuss attendance/resources. The Operations Team keeps internal data on students to manage the attendance patterns of specific students. ISBE defines truancy as nine days of unexcused absences. As of last year, the Illinois Report Card TMSOE had the lowest truancy rate by 5-12% when compared to four other local schools.
- Open enrollment has begun. Our price increase is currently 2.95%. This rate is much lower than the previous year of 20.0%. TASC will no longer be our COBRA provider, CPI will take on this role beginning 12/01.

Building

- The chimney and door project was completed on 09/15.
- The building needed immediate boiler replacement of 12 tubes and installation of a burner refractory. The cost of this replacement was \$8,850. Funds were used from our contingency building budget.
- As part of the Chicago Bldg Code Chapter 15-16-1360, TMSOE has signed a contract with Chicago Fire Protection Life Safety Systems to complete the annual fire alarm tests and annual inspections per National Fire Protection Standards. TMSOE is currently in the process of updating the following: heat detectors in maintenance closets, smoke detectors in the second-floor elevator lobby, and replacement of batteries. This project cost estimate is \$1,860.00
- The elevator inspection was completed on 11/07 by the City of Chicago.
- The playground is scheduled to begin in April of 2023. TMSOE completed the construction and site utilization plan as part of the bidding process. The mandatory walkthrough is scheduled for November 16th.
- TMSOE is scheduled for a roof evaluation from CPS in November
- TMSOE's three-year asbestos reinspection is due this year. CPS will conduct the reinspection by 11/30.

Middle School

- TMSOE students took the High School entrance test on October 26th. The first round of the high school selection process is underway.
- The Middle School Student Government runs a weekly snack cart to raise money for graduation and school activities. Part of the proceeds went toward a homecoming dance which they held on the 28th of October.
- Food As Power with Dr. Geeta Maker-Clark is returning. Groups of students will meet once a month with residents from the University of Chicago and a chef.
- The Middle School Girls Volleyball Team won their local tournament.
- The Middle School Boys Soccer Team won their conference.
- Junior High student Trinity Crockett was nominated for the National Youth Leadership Forum, a two weeks STEM experience for forward-thinking Middle Schoolers. She was accepted into the program and will attend Loyola University for a two-week program in the summer.

Upper Elementary

- The Upper Elementary students enjoyed themselves as they celebrated Halloween with a party in the gym. Activities included a pumpkin decorating contest and a costume contest.
- Teachers and students are working hard to prepare for next spring's IAR. In addition to their regular lessons, students will be assessed weekly on particular groups of common core standards.
- The Upper Elementary is planning a holiday food exchange on Wednesday, November 16th. Each class will prepare a dish to share with the students in the other classes as a way to celebrate Thanksgiving.

Lower Elementary

- Lower Elementary classrooms are hard at work carrying out authentic Montessori lessons while incorporating test prep for the IAR this upcoming Spring. Teachers are making sure our students meet reading, writing, and math standards through a series of Common Core assessments.
- Afternoons in the Lower Elementary classroom, you will find small group interventions happening through our FastBridge program.
- Lower Elementary classrooms enjoyed Halloween through fun activities in their homerooms, as well as trick-or-treating throughout the school building.

Specialized Support

- Case management: We are on track with all of our evaluations, and have completed 100% of annual reviews and evaluations on time so far this year. The only potential dings on our compliance would be the overdue evaluations and IEP annual reviews that we inherited upon enrollment of new students.
- We continue to collaborate with general education teachers to help them implement accommodations and modifications in the general education classrooms for shared students.

MTSS

- MTSS progress monitoring this year across all classrooms has been

completed with 100% fidelity in classrooms with dedicated MTSS interventionists.

- It's been great working with Kindergarten- Eighth-grade educators closely to ensure they meet data collections deadlines and carry out interventions with fidelity
- MTSS welcomes a new team member for 4th-6th grade tier II interventions for classrooms 306 and 312 in the afternoon
- Shout out to Ms. Brenda for making all of her interventions Montessori based

Bilingual

- iLitELL English Language proficiency curriculum and the online program is completely underway during ESL pull-out time
- Lexia English is used with fidelity in one classroom and will start to be implemented with our newcomer families
- We welcome more newcomers to our ELL department and look forward to their families joining the community
- Push-in Bilingual minutes have officially begun, and it's great to see how much support students are getting from their 30 minutes of pull-out ESL and 30 minutes of push-in bilingual

Assessments

- 98% of students took the High School Assessment during the initial administration
 - 2 students need to complete their makeup tests on November 17th, 2022
- The ACCESS test is scheduled for January 11th- February 28th
- Our staff was unable to log in to the KIDS website to input data for the Kindergarten assessment
- IAR data has been used to plan a schoolwide push for academic press and progress to proficiency

Academics

Strategic Priorities

1. Attendance and Chronic Absenteeism
2. Strengthen Montessori Alignment to Common Core Practice
3. Improve School Culture and Climate
4. Fidelity of Implementation of Schoolwide MTSS in the Montessori Context
5. IAR Progress to Proficiency/ Test Prep
6. Science Proficiency
7. Supports for Diverse Learners
8. Supports for ELLs